[Sri. A. J. John]

in our dispensaries. The lump sum provision of Rs. 10 lakhs in the Medical Budget for this year has also been made use of for supplying more medicines and surgica and other instruments to the hospitals and for carrying out urgent works of repairs and maintenance to buildings which were being neglected for want of adequate funds.

33. A new spacious and well-furnished Pay-ward has been opened in the General Hospital, Trivandrum. An up-to-date building for the Ophthalmic Hospital at Trivandrum is nearing completion. It is expected that the Avittam Thirunal Hospital at Olloor, will be completed before the end of next year. A new women and Children's Hospital will be opened shortly at Alleppey and extensive additions costing about Rs. 2 lakhs will be made to the Hospital at Trichur.

Tuberculosis Control

34. *B. C. G. Vaccination Work.*—We have made great strides in the anti-tuberculosis campaign. B. C. G. Vaccination work was started in Nagercoil Municipal Town and suburbs in July 1942. It was extended later to Trivandrum, Quilon, Mattancherry, Kottayam, Alwaye, Changanacherry and Pulinkunnu. There are 6 teams working at present. Special arrangements have also been made to enable the public to get vaccinated at the Public Health Laboratory at Trivandrum.

35. *T. B. Clinic, Trivandrum.*—An up-to-date T. B. Clinic will be established in Trivandrum with the generous assistance of the World Health Organisation authorities, who have consented to supply, free of cost, equipment worth more than Rs. 6 to 7 lakhs. This Clinic will serve as a demonstration and training centre. The Foreign personnel has already arrived and the Clinic will start functioning immediately.

36. *T. B. Sanatorium.*—The construction of the T. B. Sanatorium at Mulakunnathukavu and the T. B. Clinic at Palluruthy has been completed and they began to admit patients early in October 1950. The Mulakunnathukavu Sanatorium, which is constructed and equipped on the most modern lines, will provide accommodation for 150 patients and has facilities for adequate expansion in future. Government have already spent about Rs. 10 lakhs on the construction of this Sanatorium and the estimated cost of the works remaining to be done is about Rs. 9 lakhs. A provision of Rs. 1 lakh is included in the budget for next year.

Public Health

37. *Maternity and Child Welfare.*—The scope of midwifery service in the State is being increased steadily from year to year by establishing midwifery centres in the rural areas. At the time of the last budget session in March 1950, there were 174 such centres functioning. During this year five more centres have been started. The main difficulty which is felt in the more rapid expansion of this service is the lack trained personnel. A class for training midwives to meet the immediate needs of the Medical, Public Health and Village Uplift. Departments has been completed during this year and obout 55 duly qualified candidates will be available for appointment as midwives in the Public Health and Village Uplift Centres. Additional centres will be opened immediately. It is proposed to place a trained Lady Doctor in charge of the entire work, assisted by trained Health Visitors in different parts of the State. Arrarngements have already been made to get a suitable candidate trained for the work at the Medical College, Culcutta, during the next session.

38. *Rural Water Supplies.*—This scheme which was started in 1947 has, as its main object, the sinking of wells in the rural areas to provide drinking water to the population. Till April 1950, 140 wells were sunk at a cost of Rs. 2·3 lakhs and

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